

Message Text

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5393

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 0438

E.O. 11653: GDS

TAGS: IAEA TECH PARM US UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR PNE BILATERALS -- THIRD PLENARY

REF: STATE 007309

1. THIRD PLENARY SESSION BEGAN AT 0900 IN AMEMBASSY EMBASSY. MYASNIKOV PRESENTED PAPERS ON A THREE-SHORT ROW CHARGE EXPERIMENT AT THE SOUTH END OF THE PROPOSED KAMA-PECHORA CANAL AND UNDERGROUND STORAGE CAVITIES IN ROCK SALT. THE US PRESENTED A PAPER ON POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TO MAN...(SCHWARTZ), AND THE ATMOSPHERIC DIFFUSION OF RADIOACTIVITY INCLUDING 1004 ANALYSIS (KNOX).

2. IN PRIVATE DISCUSSION BETWEEN FLEMING/CURTIS AND MYASNIKOV/MISHARIN (FIRST SECRETARY AT SOVIET IAEA MISSION), FLEMING, NOTHING O'TOOLE (WASHINGTON POST) INQUIRY OF AEC ON TTB/PNE, PROPOSED FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO INQUIRY DRAWN LARGELY FROM JULY 23, 1971 PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: BEGIN QUOTE IN THE PERIOD OF 15-17 JANUARY 1975, SOVIET-AMERICAN TECHNICAL TALKS ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS WERE HELD IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. THESE TALKS WERE A CONTINUATION OF THE TECHNICAL TALKS ON THE SAME SUBJECT HELD IN APRIL 1969 IN VIENNA, IN
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FEBRUARY 1970 IN MOSCOW, AND IN JULY 1971 IN

WASHINGTON, D.C. THE U.S.S.R. DELEGATION AT THE TALKS WAS HEADED BY DR. K. MYASNIKOV, AND THE U.S. DELEGATION WAS LEAD BY DR. E.H. FLEMING, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY, U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION. DURING THE TALKS, THE PARTIES CONTINUED THE DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO TECHNICAL AND THEORETICAL ASPECTS OF APPLICATIONS OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AND HAVE EXCHANGED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION OF MUTUAL INTEREST. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS DEVOTED TO CONSIDERATION OF THE PROBLEMS OF ENSURING SAFETY IN THE CONDUCT OF UNDERGROUND PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS THAT TOOK PLACE HAS EXTENDED MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USES OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, AND WILL FACILITATE MORE SUCCESSFUL WORK IN THIS FIELD OF ATOMIC ENERGY USES. END QUOTE. FLEMING STATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CLEAR THIS RELEASE IN WASHINGTON AND MYASNIKOV INDICATED THAT HE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE AND WOULD IMMEDIATELY DO THE SAME IN MOSCOW.

3. MYASNIKOV ALSO SUGGESTED TWO ADDITIONS TO THE RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRY. FLEMING OPPOSED BOTH ADDITIONS AS PER INSTRUCTIONS NOTING THAT THE FIRST TOPIC HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED..THESE REJECTED ADDITIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THAT BOTH SIDES HAD AN EXCHANGE OF OPINION AS TO WHAT MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE V OF THE NPT.

(B) IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT THE EXCHANGE OF OPINION ON THE ABOVE MENTIONED QUESTIONS WILL BE CONTINUED.

4. FLEMING ALSO PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING PRIVATE COMMUNIQUE DRAWN FROM PARA 5 REFTEL WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAST TWO SENTENCES: BEGIN QUOTE TECHNICAL EXPERTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNION OF THE SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS HELD TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA, ON JANUARY 15-17, 1975. THE PAPERS PLANNED BY EACH DELEGATION FOR PRESENTATION IN THE IAEA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 20-24, AND SOME

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ADDITIONAL MATERIAL WERE REVIEWED. IT IS STRESSED THAT THE CONCLUSIONS DISCUSSED BELOW, WHICH WERE ARRIVED AT BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS OF EACH COUNTRY, ARE OF A LIMITED TECHNICAL NATURE. THEY DO NOT REPRESENT IN ANY SENSE AN AGREEMENT ON THE PART OF EITHER GOVERNMENT ON WHAT WOULD CONSTITUTE PERMISSIBLE APPLICATIONS OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WAS AIMED AT DEVELOPING IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF THE

NATIONAL PROGRAMS IN THE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE EXPERIENCE AND VIEWS OF EACH CONCERNING THE TECHNICAL SAFETY ASPECTS OF THE INDUSTRIAL USE OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. AN IMPORTANT PART OF THESE SAFETY EXCHANGES DEALT WITH AN UPDATING OF THE TECHNICAL UNDERSTANDING OF LONG-RANGE DISTRIBUTION OF RADIOACTIVE PRODUCTS AND THE EXPOSURES OF POPULATION WHICH WOULD RESULT. THE TECHNICAL EXPERTS GAVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED DURING THE DISCUSSION OF THIS PROBLEM AT THE PREVIOUS BILATERAL TALKS (MOSCOW, FEBRUARY 12-17, 1970 AND JULY 1971 IN WASHINGTON). ON THE BASIS OF MEASUREMENTS AND TECHNICAL ANALYSES AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ESTIMATES OF THE LONG-DISTANCE DILUTION AND DIFFUSION OF RADIOACTIVE PRODUCTS OF THE EXPLOSIONS, THE SOVIET TECHNICAL EXPERTS REPORTED ON THEIR ANALYSIS WHICH INDICATED THAT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE TECHNICAL MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION A NUMBER OF NUCLEAR EXCAVATION APPLICATIONS COULD BE DESIGNED WHEREBY, IN PARTICULAR, THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS COULD BE OBSERVED:

1. THE ANNUAL ADDITION OF ISOTOPES OF STRONTIUM 90 AND CESIUM 137 AS A RESULT OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AT ANY POINT IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE EXPLOSIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED, WOULD BE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE LEVEL OF THESE ISOTOPES RESULTING FROM THEIR RADIOACTIVE DISINTEGRATION IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE (20-70 NORTH LATITUDE).

2. THE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL RADIATION EXPOSURE TO THE POPULATION IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE COUNTRY IN WHICH THE EXPLOSIONS WERE BEING CONDUCTED WOULD NOT EXCEED 5 TO 10 PERCENT OF THE DOSE LIMIT RECOMMENDED

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BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION (ICRP) AS THE DOSE LIMIT FOR THE POPULATION. THE U.S. EXPERTS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN PNE PROJECTS WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THESE STANDARDS. THE U.S. EXPERTS ALSO MENTIONED THE DOSE COMMITMENT CONCEPT AND THE POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE OF TRITIUM AS THE NUCLIDE OF PRIMARY BIOLOGICAL CONCERN IN MOST APPLICATIONS. END QUOTE. MYASNIKOV AGREED TO SEEK GUIDANCE ON THIS PROPOSAL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS BUT BEFORE THE END OF THE IAEA MEETINGS.

5. BILATERALS CONCLUDED AT RECEPTION IN AMEMBASSY EMBASSY WITH EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATION TO SOVIETS BY US OF TAPE RECORDINGS OF PROCEEDINGS.

6. REQUEST GUIDANCE ASAP ON DRAFT RESPONSE TO INQUIRY
(PARA 2) AND PRIVATE COMMUNIQUE (PARA 4).PORTER

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